

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of communicating between a first computer and a second computer, comprising:

identifying a plurality of documents associated with a transaction;

defining an action sequence for the plurality of documents, the action sequence defining actions that are performed on the documents and a sequential order of the actions,  
wherein the first computer can perform a first set of actions and the second computer can perform a second set of actions;

the first computer creating one of the plurality of documents based on the action sequence  
and based on a relationship between the first computer and the second computer,  
wherein the relationship between the first computer and the second computer comprises the first computer having a process template and the second computer having a copy of the process template; and

the first computer sending the one of the plurality of documents to the second computer.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 and further comprising:

checking a version identifier to see if the first computer and second computer include the same version of a process template related to the action sequence.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 and further comprising;

the second computer requesting a copy of the process template if the second computer does not include the same version of the process template as the first computer.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 and further comprising:

rendering a document based on a set of rendering rules for each of the documents, wherein rendering comprises making the document viewable to a user and wherein the rendering rules define how each of the documents is rendered in various applications.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 5 wherein the first computer is associated with a supplier and the second computer is associated with a customer.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the one of the plurality of documents is validated before it is sent to the second computer.

13. (Original) The method of claim 5 and further comprising:

integrating information in each of the documents into an application on one of the first computer and the second computer.

14. (Currently Amended) A business network, comprising:

a first computer having a memory including a process template, the process template comprising:

a business entity module defining a structure of business entities;

an entity action module defining valid actions that can be performed on the business entities; and

a transaction document module defining transaction documents and creating a corresponding document based on the business entity module and the entity action module;

a second computer having a memory including a copy of the process template and performing actions based on the process template and a relationship between the first computer and the second computer; and  
wherein information entered into the transaction documents and actions performed on the business entities are validated against the process template before an exchange between the first and second computers; and  
wherein valid actions that can be performed on the business entities depend upon an identity of a user.

15. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 14, wherein the process template further comprises:

a correlation module defining how each of the business entities are related and recorded in a history.

16. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 15, wherein the process template further comprises:

a version identifier identifying a particular version of the process template.

17. (Original) The network of claim 16, wherein the second computer is adapted to check the version identifier to see if the particular version of the process template is stored thereon and request a new copy of the particular version of the process template if the second computer does not include the particular version of the process template.

18. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 16, wherein the process template further comprises:

a routing module defining routing rules for each of the transaction documents.

19-24. (Cancelled)